

Sent: mercredi 16 juin 2010 13:53

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: VP Reding meeting with Italian MEPs - international adoption in Romania

VP Reding met yesterday with a group of Italian MEPs (Toia (S&D); Angelilli (EPP); Mazzoni (EPP); Costa (S&D) and Mauro (EPP)) to discuss the situation in Romania where international adoptions are banned.

Romania banned international adoption in 2004 to prevent abuses in adoption procedures and the risk of corruption and child trafficking, and has refused to consider reevaluating the situation ever since. Ms Toia informed of 86 000 orphans in Romania who do not manage to find a home and of 100 cases where children had found a home in Italy already and were taken from their prospective parents when the ban was introduced. She asked for COM help in convincing Romania to lift the ban.

VP Reding stated that she could not change the position of a MS government on matters that are of its competency; she would, however, discuss the issue informally with the Romanian Justice Minister. The Commission will also present a Communication on childrens' rights 2011-2014 by the end of the year, and the Commissioner would be happy to work with the EP on the themes developed in this Communication. Following several suggestions from the MEPs, VP Reding invited them to present concrete proposals for action linked to the new Communication. Ms Mazzoni, who is the Chair of EP PETI, invited VP Reding to attend the first session of the debate on child protection, which will start in the autumn. VP Reding stressed the importance of not marginalising Romanian MEPs but including them in the debate.